

REMARKS

1. (amendments to the claims) Claims 1-13 are pending in the present application. With the present response, Applicants hereby amend claims 1-9, 11 and 13, cancel claims 10 and 12, and add new claims 14-16. Support for the claims can be found, for example, in Figures 8-11 and related portions of the specification. All amendments are made without prejudice of presenting the original claims in the present application or related applications, such as continuation, divisional and/or continuation in part applications.

2. (information disclosure statement) An information disclosure statement (IDS) containing the references cited in the International Search Report is being filed under separate cover. The Examiner is requested to consider the references cited in the IDS.

3. (drawings) In section 2 of the Action of July 8, 2009 the Examiner objects to the drawings. Amended Figure 7 is enclosed with the present response. In compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121(d), a replacement drawing sheet is attached showing amendments to Figure 7. A replacement sheet ("sheet 5 of 8") is attached. Also, as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.121(d) (1) and (2), a marked-up copy of the amended drawing of Figure 7 (labeled "ANNOTATED SHEET") is included with this response. The marked-up copy of the amended drawing includes annotations indicating the changes made by this amendment to Figure 7. Specifically, the changes made hereby to Figure 7 are shown as "highlighted" in yellow in the marked-up copy of the amended drawing. Specifically, as shown in the attached marked-up copy of the amended drawing figure, Applicants have amended Figure 7 to include the following: the reference designator "6", the reference indicator, and the "hashed" or "dashed" block which surrounds the entirety of the electrical cabinet shown in Figure 7. Applicants respectfully submit that Figure 7, as amended, overcomes the Examiner's objections.

4. (specification) In section 4 of the Action, the Examiner objects to the Abstract as originally filed. Further, in section 5 of the Action, the Examiner objects to the disclosure because sub-headings and page numbers are missing. The Examiner also requests presence of a "Cross Reference to Related Applications" paragraph. Applicants enclose with the present response a substitute specification (marked-up and clean copy) in accordance with 37 CFR 1.125 where the description and abstract have been amended as requested. As required by 37 CFR 1.125(b), **Applicants hereby state that the substitute specification includes no new matter.** Although drawings and claims are not presented with the substitute copy, it is understood that the currently pending claims are those present with this response and that the currently pending drawings are those as originally filed, with the amendment to Figure 7 addressed in the above section of the present

response.

5. (specification – protecting means) The Examiner objects to the specification as failing to provide proper antecedent basis to the claimed subject matter and requires correction of the term “protecting means” recited in Claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner’s request is not well understood. The term “protecting means” has the meaning of “means that protect”. Does the Examiner wish the term to be changed to “protection means”? In the claims, such term has been amended by Applicant to recite “strip protection means.” As to the specification, the Examiner should note that there is ample support for such feature in the specification. See, for example, Figure 1 and page 6 of the specification as originally filed. If the Examiner believes that the Applicants’ comments in this paragraph are not enough to overcome the Examiner’s objection, clarification of this objection to Applicants is respectfully requested.

6. (claims objections) In section 7 of the Action, the Examiner raises several objections against the claims. Applicants have amended the claims as shown in the enclosed “Claims” section and submit that the Examiner’s objections have been overcome.

7. (multiple dependent claims) In section 8 of the Action, the Examiner objects to claims 8 and 11-13 as being in improper form. Applicants have amended the dependency of claims 8, 11, and 13 as shown in the enclosed “Claims” section and submit that the Examiner’s objections have been overcome. Claim 12 has been canceled without prejudice.

8. (35 USC 112 second paragraph – protecting means) In section 11 of the Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-13 on 35 USC 112 second paragraph grounds because of the term “protecting means” which, in the Examiner’s opinion, specifies no function. Applicants respectfully disagree, because the “protecting” portion of “protecting means” specifies the function of protecting. The Examiner’s rejection is not clear to Applicants. In order to bring this application quickly towards allowance, Applicants have replaced “protecting means” with “strip protection means”. Should the Examiner not be satisfied with this linguistic amendment, additional clarification of the Examiner’s rejection is respectfully requested.

9. (35 USC 112 second paragraph – exhibits/realised) In sections 12 and 13 of the Action, the Examiner rejects the claims in view of some idiomatic expressions such as “exhibits” and “realised”. Applicants submit that the amended claims enclosed with the present response overcome the Examiner’s rejections.

ETN-046-PAP
Appln. No. 10/573,358

Submission Date: December 8, 2009

10. (new claims 14-16) New claims 14-16 are being added with this response.

11. (allowable subject matter) The Examiner states that original claims 1 and 9 would be allowable if amended to overcome the above rejections. Applicants submit that claims 1 and 9, together with their dependent claims, overcome all of the above objections and rejections. Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments and remarks set forth above overcome each ground of rejection and objections raised by the Examiner. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application, to withdraw all current rejections and objections, and, barring the discovery of new grounds for rejection or objection, to promptly issue a Notice of Allowance of all claims.


The Commissioner is authorized to construe this paper as including a petition to extend the period of response by the number of months necessary to make this paper timely filed. Fees or deficiencies required to cause the response to be complete and timely filed may be charged, and any overpayments should be credited, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0490.

Respectfully submitted,

12-08-2009

Date: December 8, 2009

JAQUEZ & ASSOCIATES
6265 Greenwich Drive, Suite 100D
San Diego, California 92122-5916
(858) 453-2004 (TEL)
(858) 453-1280 (FAX)


Martin J. Jaquez
Registration No. 38,060